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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE:

SUBJECT Bulgarian and Soviet Order of Battle

INFO.

DIST. 30 October 1947

PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT

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Bulgarian Order of Battle

1. The Bulgarian First Army is now about 5,000 strong and has its headquarters at Krichim. Units of this Army are encamped at Smolan, Devin and Rudozem.
2. The barracks at Berkovitsa have been turned into a hospital

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Soviet Ground Order of Battle

3. Shortly after 20 August a large number of Soviet troops arrived at Burgas from Rumania. A few days later they left for the Turkish frontier. There are still large numbers of Soviet troops encamped in the region of the Turkish frontier.
4. Soldiers from Soviet artillery units stationed on the outskirts of Burgas are generally seen in town on leave. Among them are soldiers from coastal artillery units. One soldier was serving in the park of the Soviet 92nd Howitzer Regt. Recently new Soviet artillery units have appeared in the neighborhood of Burgas.
5. Two big long-barrelled guns were installed by the Soviets in August on the borders of the fir wood near the pier at Sozopol. There is a clear space of about 100 meters behind them. It is believed that other guns have been installed behind the two which are mentioned above.
6. The coastal guns situated behind Tsarevo were replaced in August by new Soviet guns which are manned by Soviet troops. At the end of August there were many Soviet artillery officers at Tsarevo as well as some naval officers.
7. The coastal guns at Ryezovo, which formerly could be seen, have now been dismantled by the Soviets, and other guns have been installed in concrete emplacements in the woods to the rear of the old gun positions. These guns are manned by Soviet naval gunners.
8. The Soviets are installing big guns near Primorsko.

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Document No. 004
NO CHANGE in Class. ☐
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Class. CHANGED TO: TS S 9
DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77
Auth: DDA REG. 77/1783
Date: 21 APR 1978

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9. On 29 August big tractors on caterpillar treads were seen alongside the road near Monchilgrad drawing 150mm guns. A short distance away there was a column of about thirty trucks. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
10. Several depots are under construction at Ustovo. Supply depots with a capacity of 1,000 tons of foodstuffs are nearing completion.
11. About the beginning of August the Soviet GHQ was transferred from Cham Koriya, near Samokov, to Kostenets Banya, about 75 kms. from Plovdiv.
12. In connection with the new Soviet units which appeared in Bulgaria this summer, it is reported that in the middle of July large Soviet units passed through from Silistra and Dobric toward Bulgaria's southern frontier. It is estimated that the newly arrived forces consisted of approximately three motorized infantry divisions, one mechanized division and several separate transport and technical units. The divisions mentioned above were stationed in the regions of Potel, Sliven, Yambol, Elkhovo and Topolevgrad and more than a division in the region of Stara Zagora. Where possible the camps have been arranged in tactical fashion with camouflaged installations, etc.
13. There is a separate unit of this group hidden in the trees in the region of Topolevgrad. This is a trucking unit with 250 new trucks.
14. There are about 150 thirty to thirty-five ton tanks in the vicinity of Yambol.
15. Military depots have been established in the wooded region north of Despat.
16. A Soviet truck regiment and an artillery unit armed with katushas are concealed in the woods near Harmanli.
17. On 17 August a Soviet artillery unit with thirty truck-drawn guns passed through Kirdzhali heading for the Yugoslav frontier.
18. On 18 August ten railroad cars filled with Soviet soldiers arrived at Pazardzhik from Plovdiv. They detrained and left by trucks in the direction of Peshtera.

Soviet Air Activity

19. The number of Soviet aircraft in the region of Elkhovo decreased considerably in August.
20. The airfield at Guchbeyler, 10 kms. east of Elkhovo, was evacuated and remained empty for several days. On 25 August, however, 12 Soviet fighters arrived at the field.
21. In July and August the Soviet Air Force made use of the airfield at Chirpan, where there were about 50 fighters and bombers. The airfield has been enlarged.
22. On the landing ground of Idebuk (?), between Haskovo and Harmanli, there were 25 to 26 Soviet fighters in August.
23. The number of Soviet aircraft at Graf Ignat'yev has again increased.

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